

# Seoul Broadcasting System

**Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS)** (*Hangul*: 에스비에스; *RR*: Eseubieseuj) is a national South Korean television and radio network company. In March 2000, the company legally became known as SBS, changing its corporate name from Seoul Broadcasting System (서울방송). It has provided terrestrial digital TV service in the ATSC format since 2001, and T-DMB (Digital Multimedia Broadcasting) service since 2005. Its flagship terrestrial television station is Channel 6 for Digital and Cable.

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## History

SBS was launched and formed on the day MBC celebrated its 30th Anniversary on October 9, 1991. SBS is the second commercial broadcaster in South Korea after MBC. The purpose was to become an alternative channel to the audience that before 1990 was mastered by MBC. In the 1980s, MBC was a mouthpiece of KBS to broadcast sporting events like the 1986 FIFA World Cup. After the democratic reform in 1987, as well as the separation of MBC from KBS, the government allowed the creation of a second commercial station in Seoul on November 14, 1990. SBS began trial transmissions on its television and radio channels on December 1, 1990 in Seoul. On March 20, 1991, the first regular SBS Radio broadcasts were launched on AM 792kHz, marking the start of SBS.<sup>[1]</sup>

On December 9, 1991, SBS TV started broadcasting at 10:00am in Seoul, which was designated as "The Day of Birth of SBS".<sup>[2]</sup> Initially, SBS only broadcast terrestrially in Seoul and its surrounding areas. On October 9, 1992, the government began accepting applications for private broadcasting stations in other regions of the country. SBS had planned for a television and radio broadcast affiliate network that aims to air SBS' programs in other new regional channels before its 5th anniversary. In 1994, the private channels KNN in Busan, TJB in Daejeon, TBC in Daegu, and kbc in Gwangju were created after government approval.<sup>[3]</sup> On May 14, 1995, SBS launched its national television network with its new local affiliates, KNN, TJB, TBC,

### Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS)



|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Native name         |  |
| Hangul              | 주식회사 에스비에스   |
| Revised             | Jushikhoesa Eseubieseuj  |
| Romanization        |  |
| McCune              | Chusikhoesa Esübiesü   |
| –Reischauer         |  |
| Formerly called     |  |
| Hangul              | 서울방송   |
| Hanja               | 서울放送   |
| Revised             | Seoul Bangsong Siseutem  |
| Romanization        |  |
| McCune              | Sōul Pangsong Sisūtem  |
| –Reischauer         |  |
| Type                | Private  |
| Traded as           | KRX: 034120<br>( <a href="http://stock.daum.net/item/company.daum?code=034120&amp;type=21">http://stock.daum.net/item/company.daum?code=034120&amp;type=21</a> ) |
| Industry            | Broadcast radio<br>television  |
| Founded             | February 14, 1990  |
| Headquarters        | 161, Mokdongseo-ro, Yangcheon District,<br>Seoul, South Korea  |
| Area served         | South Korea  |
| Key people          | Yoon Se-young (Chairman)<br>Park Jung-hoon (President)   |
| Revenue             | 792,884,228,900 (2015)   |
| Operating income    | 42,152,487,870 won (2015)  |
| Net income          | 34,884,042,815 won (2015)  |
| Total assets        | 934,369,945,679 won (2015)   |
| Total equity        | 91,262,910,000 (December 2015)   |
| Owner               | SBS Media Holdings: 30.31%<br>National Pension Service: 6.98%<br>Kiturami Boiler: 6.30%<br>Mirae Asset: 6.02%  |
| Number of employees | 1,141 (December 2015)  |
| Parent              | Taeyoung E&C Co.,Ltd.  |
| Subsidiaries        | SBS A&T  |

and kbc. SBS had managed a network that airs SBS programs in other regional channels while local stations created local programming to suit the local residents needs.<sup>[4]</sup>

In 1996, plans for a FM radio station to complement the existing AM station became realized. On November 14, 1996, SBS Power FM began broadcasting on 107.7 MHz as a music-centric station. On January 4, 1999, the original SBS Radio on AM 792 kHz began broadcasting on FM as well. The station rebranded as SBS Love FM on 103.5 MHz, simultaneously airing on both AM and FM frequencies.<sup>[5]</sup> High-definition digital television was introduced in 2001. Digital Multimedia Broadcasting (DMB) was introduced in 2005.

SBS introduced its current logo on November 14, 2000 after its 10th anniversary celebrations to ensure the overall coherence of the current identity. SBS' logo has three embryos placed in a circle of the model where three colors are used to represent the symbol of human-centered, cultural and creative, future-oriented management philosophy, showing that the 'life' and 'the seeds of civilization' has centered on the theme of SBS. SBS' branding is used in all sectors such as vehicle, microphone, envelopes, business cards, memorabilia, helicopter, signs, ganpanryu, seosikryu, uniforms, program title, etc. SBS also had used the slogan "Humanism thru Digital" until January 2010 where a new slogan is currently used. Gomi is the mascot of SBS-oriented as the new face of 'Humanism thru Digital' through the harmony of nature and human life where green environment is important.<sup>[6]</sup> On October 29, 2012, SBS TV became South Korea's second channel to go 24/7.

The network's current advertising slogan is Together, we make delight (함께 만드는 기쁨), as used in a new station identification video with apl.de.ap's "We Can Be Anything" as background music.<sup>[7][8]</sup>

## SBS channels

- 1 terrestrial TV (SBS TV**Channel 6**)
- 2 radio stations

| Name                | Frequency                                 | Power (kW)               | Transmitter Site   |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| <u>SBS Love FM</u>  | 792 kHz AM<br>103.5 MHz FM<br>98.3 MHz FM | 50 kW (AM)<br>10 kW (FM) | Neunggok-dong, Goyang City, Gyeonggi Province (AM)<br>Mount Gwanaksan, Seoul (FM)<br>Icheon City, Gyeonggi Province (FM) |
| <u>SBS Power FM</u> | 107.7 MHz FM<br>100.3 MHz FM              | 10 kW<br>100W            | Mount Gwanaksan, Seoul<br>Saengyeon-dong, Dongducheon City, Gyeonggi Province  |
| <u>SBS V-Radio</u>  | CH 12C DMB                                | 2 kW                     | Mount Gwanaksan, Seoul   |

Mediacreate Co., Ltd.

### Website

[www.sbs.co.kr](http://www.sbs.co.kr) (<http://www.sbs.co.kr/>)

## SBS Media Holdings, Ltd.



### Native name

**Hangul** (주)에스비에스미디어홀딩스

**Revised** (Ju) Eseubieseumidieoholdingseu

### Romanization

**Type** Private

**Traded as** KRX: 101060  
(<http://stock.daum.net/item/company.daum?code=101060&type=21>) (2008.3.24)

**Industry** Broadcasting  
Communication

**Founded** Seoul, South Korea (March 4, 2008)

**Headquarters** 161, Mokdongseo-ro, Yangcheon District, Seoul, South Korea

**Services** Broadcasting holding company

**Revenue** 473,523,143,447 (2015)

**Operating income** 23,260,805,348 (2015)

**Net income** 25,227,364,840 (2015)

**Total assets** 881,606,449,180 (December 2015)

**Total equity** 69,948,095,000 (December 2015)

**Owner** Taeyoung Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd: 61.42%  
Kiturami Boiler Co., Ltd: 8.78%  
National Pension Service: 6.98%

**Parent** Taeyoung Industry Co., Ltd. (KRX: 009410  
(<http://stock.daum.net/item/company.daum?code=009410&type=21>))

**Subsidiaries** SBS  
SBS Contents Hub  
SBS Medianet  
SBS Viacom

**Website** [www.sbsmedia.co.kr](http://www.sbsmedia.co.kr)  
(<http://www.sbsmedia.co.kr>)

- 7 cable TV channels (SBS Plus, SBS Golf, SBS E!, SBS Sports, SBS CNBC, SBS MTV, Nickelodeon Korea)
- 1 Free To air Within Cable TV Channel (As Planning on **SBS Phoenix TV**)

## Family companies

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| Name   | Description   |
|--|---|
| <u>SBS Media Holdings</u><br>( <a href="http://www.sbsmedia.co.kr/main/main.jsp">http://www.sbsmedia.co.kr/main/main.jsp</a> )                         | <i>Parent company of SBS</i>  |
| <u>SBS International, Inc.</u> ( <a href="http://www.sbs-int.com/">http://www.sbs-int.com/</a> )   | <i>Operates SBS America</i>   |
| <u>SBS Academy</u> ( <a href="http://www.sbs-academy.co.kr/">http://www.sbs-academy.co.kr/</a> )   | <i>Trains and manages employees</i>   |
| <u>SBS Artech</u> ( <a href="http://www.sbsat.co.kr/">http://www.sbsat.co.kr/</a> )  | <i>Provides creative support</i>  |
| <u>SBS Newstech</u><br>( <a href="http://www.sbsnewstech.co.kr/">http://www.sbsnewstech.co.kr/</a> )   | <i>Provides information technology</i>  |
| <u>SBS Contents Hub</u>  | <i>Distributes media online</i>   |
| <u>SBS Culture Foundation</u><br>( <a href="http://foundation.sbs.co.kr/culture.cmd?act=index">http://foundation.sbs.co.kr/culture.cmd?act=index</a> ) | <i>Provides support for broadcast and cultural innovation</i>   |
| <u>Seoam Foundation</u><br>( <a href="http://foundation.sbs.co.kr/seoam.cmd?act=index">http://foundation.sbs.co.kr/seoam.cmd?act=index</a> )           | <i>Provide scholarships to deserving individuals</i>  |
| <u>SBS Medianet</u>  | <i>Operates the cable channels of <u>SBS CNBC</u>, <u>SBS Plus</u>, <u>SBS Sports</u>, <u>SBS Golf</u>, and <u>SBS funE</u></i> |
| <u>SBS Viacom</u> ( <u>SBS</u> and <u>Viacom</u> )   | <i>Operates the cable channels of <u>SBS MTV</u> and <u>Nickelodeon</u></i>   |
| <u>SBS Indonesia</u> ( <u>SBS</u> and <u>Lejel Group</u> )   | <i>Operates the cable channels of <u>SBS-In</u> and <u>SBS Shop</u></i>   |
| <u>The Story Works</u><br>( <a href="http://www.thestoryworks.co.kr/">http://www.thestoryworks.co.kr/</a> )  | <i>Provides in-house drama production</i>   |
| <u>Vlending Co., Ltd.</u><br>( <a href="http://www.vlending.co.kr/">http://www.vlending.co.kr/</a> ) ( <u>SBS</u> and <u>MBC</u> )                     | <i>Provides music distribution</i>  |
| <u>SBS Phoenix TV</u>  | <i>A planning Of SBS First Flagship Free To air Chinese Asian Entertainment Channel.</i>  |

## SBS Network

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| Channel | Corporate Name  | Broadcast Region                             | Since                           |
|---------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| SBS     | SBS   | <u>Seoul Capital Area</u>                    | March 20, 1991                  |
| KNN     | KNN   | <u>Busan and South Gyeongsang</u>            | May 14, 1995                    |
| TBC     | TBC   | <u>Daegu and North Gyeongsang</u>            | May 14, 1995                    |
| kbc     | <u>Kwangju Broadcasting Corporation</u>                 | <u>Gwangju and South Jeolla</u>              | May 14, 1995                    |
| TJB     | <u>TaeJon Broadcasting</u>                              | <u>Daejeon, Sejong and South Chungcheong</u> | May 14, 1995                    |
| ubc     | <u>Ulsan Broadcasting Corporation</u>                   | <u>Ulsan</u>                                 | September 1, 1997               |
| JTV     | <u>Jeonju Television</u>                                | <u>North Jeolla</u>                          | September 17, 1997              |
| CJB     | <u>Cheongju Broadcasting</u>                            | <u>North Chungcheong</u>                     | October 18, 1997 <sup>[9]</sup> |
| G1      | <u>G1</u>   | <u>Gangwon</u>                               | December 15, 2001               |
| JIBS    | <u>Jeju Free International City Broadcasting System</u> | <u>Jeju Island</u>                           | May 31, 2002                    |

## Logos

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First SBS logo (Colored)(December 1991~1994) Second SBS logo (1994~2000) Third and current SBS logo (2000~Present)

## Programming

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SBS dramas have been part of the "Korean Wave", exported to many countries across the world. Sandglass has one of the highest viewership ratings in South Korea, and is considered the breakout drama for the network.<sup>[10]</sup> Other dramas that have enjoyed high viewership include Lovers in Paris, Trap of Youth, Brilliant Legacy, Rustic Period, and Temptation of Wife, The Heirs, My Love from the Star.<sup>[11]</sup> SBS airs a variety of entertainment programs ranging from informational, comedy, music, reality, talk shows, and auditions. Many programs are popular throughout Asia, including X-Man, Family Outing, Running Man, The Music Trend, and many more.<sup>[12][13]</sup> SBS documentaries encompass a wide range of issues, from foreign affairs to the environment. The Its Know premiered in 1992, and has since earned notoriety for its investigations from a journalistic standpoint. SBS also broke tradition by creating its flagship newscast SBS Eight O'Clock News, airing at 20:00 instead of 21:00, giving itself the slogan "News an hour earlier".<sup>[14]</sup> It also produces news-analysis programs such as Morning Wide, Nightline, SBS Current Affairs Debate, Curious Stories Y, and In Depth 21 covering the political, economic, social and cultural issues of the days.

## Foreign partners

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| <b>Partner</b>  | <b>Country</b>        |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>El Trece</u> and <u>Televisión Pública Argentina</u>         | <u>Argentina</u>      |
| <u>Network Ten</u>  | <u>Australia</u>      |
| <u>Rede Record</u>  | <u>Brazil</u>         |
| <u>City and Global</u>  | <u>Canada</u>         |
| <u>Mega, La Red, Etc... TV and Chilevisión</u>                  | <u>Chile</u>          |
| <u>RCN Televisión</u>   | <u>Colombia</u>       |
| <u>Ecuador TV</u>   | <u>Ecuador</u>        |
| <u>TF1</u>  | <u>France</u>         |
| <u>DW-TV</u>  | <u>Germany</u>        |
| <u>HKTVE</u> and <u>TVB(Most)</u>                               | <u>Hong Kong</u>      |
| <u>BTV</u> and <u>SMG</u>                                       | <u>China</u>          |
| <u>RCTI, SCTV</u> and <u>antv</u>                               | <u>Indonesia</u>      |
| <u>Mediaset</u>   | <u>Italy</u>          |
| <u>Nippon TV, Tokyo MX, Fuji Television</u> and <u>TV Tokyo</u> | <u>Japan</u>          |
| <u>Astro (ONE TV ASIA) &amp; TV Alhijrah</u>                    | <u>Malaysia</u>       |
| <u>Panamericana Televisión</u>                                  | <u>Peru</u>           |
| <u>SIC</u>  | <u>Portugal</u>       |
| <u>Pasiones TV</u>  | <u>Puerto Rico</u>    |
| <u>MediaCorp, Astro (ONE TV ASIA)</u>                           | <u>Singapore</u>      |
| <u>Antena 3 &amp; laSexta</u>                                   | <u>Spain</u>          |
| <u>CTV and TTV</u>  | <u>Taiwan</u>         |
| <u>MCOT</u> and <u>Channel 7,</u>                               | <u>Thailand</u>       |
| <u>Channel 4</u> and <u>Sky UK</u>                              | <u>United Kingdom</u> |
| <u>NBC, MTV, Fox, and Telemundo</u>                             | <u>United States</u>  |
| <u>Televen</u>  | <u>Venezuela</u>      |
| <u>HTV</u> and <u>TodayTV VTC7</u>                              | <u>Vietnam</u>        |

## Controversies

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### SBS Eight O'Clock News Jang Ja-yeon letter case misreporting

SBS Eight O'Clock News, the network's flagship newscast, reported "Actress Jang Ja-yeon had 'entertained' 31 guests for a total of 100 times." The newscast also showed a 230-page document directly written by Jang which however was not her writing. the newscast said "A 50-container/230-page document directly written and delivered to friends by Jang Ja-yeon, who committed suicide in March 2009, has been obtained. In the document, a narrative titled 'Snow' draws the story of how unknown celebrities are forced into an ugly entertainment industry." The newscast cited the documents, stating, "The police who were investigating Jang Ja-yeon's case knew of this fact but chose to overlook it. Jang Ja-yeon asked for 'revenge' in the document." They added, "Jang Ja-yeon entertained a total of 31 people, 100 times - being forced to give sexual favors. However, claims by representative Kim from her past agency reveals a completely different story. Jang Ja-yeon had kept records of their jobs however, and within these records, it is supposed that officials, publisher officials, corporations, financial institutions, and media officials are involved." Also, "A handwriting expert has confirmed that the documents belonged to Jang Ja-yeon." the newscast revealed, "Jang Ja-yeon wrote, 'Please get revenge. There is no way out of hosting. The men who come to receive services are evil. I was forced to host over 100 times. Whenever I get new clothes to wear, I had to meet another devil. Not just in Kangnam, but I also hosted at Suwon Karaoke and various room salons. Even on my parents' memorial day, I was forced to host. Since I made a list, avenge me to the death. Even if I die, I will take my revenge to the grave.'"<sup>[15]</sup> however the National Institute of Scientific Investigation said that the letters were fabricated.<sup>[16]</sup> they said:"In these letters, the way that certain characters like 'yo' and 'ya' were written coincide

directly with the writing habits of the late actress Jang Ja-yeon. The way the consonants and vowels were written are exactly alike, proving that these letters were written by the same person." SBS further added, "It is virtually impossible for Jun to have perfected the handwriting of Jang Ja-yeon by copying the picture of her suicide note from a newspaper. He could not have written 230 letters in her copied handwriting with such limited information, and it is also unlikely that three years worth of letters were merely the result of a concocted plan." SBS continued, "The letters also reveal detailed information regarding her agency's advancement plans, as well as information on the figures she 'hosted' that others would not be able to know. If anything, the letters and envelopes show that Jun tried his best to make sure that Jang Ja-yeon's identity was not leaked through the letters.". [17] however the National Forensic Service confirms that Jang Ja-yeon's letters were fabricated. Yang Hoo-yeol the chief of the NFS opened an official briefing with the media and reported, "After comparing Jang Ja-yeon's original handwriting to Jun's handwriting and the letters in question, results have shown that the letters are not in line with Jang Ja-yeon's original handwriting. Many of grammatical errors are in line with the mistakes Jun made in his personal letters, so we believe that Jang Ja-yeon's letters were fabricated by Jun." He concluded, "The letters that Jun claimed were sent to him by Jang Ja Yeon have a completely different handwriting style to Jang Ja Yeon's original handwriting. Jang Ja Yeon did not write these letters.". [18] SBS responded to the reports made by the National Forensic Service yesterday, in which they asserted that Jang Ja-yeon's letters were indeed fabricated. SBS stated, "We have no option but to accept the results declared by the NSF. We felt that we had gone through all of the correct measures in investigating the letters for our reports, so we are apologetic for reporting something that was not revealed to be the truth." The station went on to explain their process for their findings. "We made a detailed comparison of the court records and the content of the letters and decided that the possibility of Jang Ja-yeon having written the letters herself was high. We did not, however, investigate the documents at the time." SBS continued, "When we commissioned a handwriting analysis, results showed that it belonged to Jang. We had met with Jun, the owner of the letters, twice already, and even met with his family. His family revealed that they had not directly confirmed that the celebrity Jun knew was Jang Ja-yeon, just that he had a celebrity friend. We then decided that it would be impossible for an inmate to accurately record the whereabouts of someone else outside for over three years." "As it stands, we have no option but to accept the results of the NFS." The 8 News concluded with an apology to the viewers. "We are extremely apologetic towards the viewers for adding confusion, and to the bereaved for causing distress. We will be continuing to work to find the truth behind Jang Ja-yeon's controversy.". [19]

## Mini-skirt controversy

SBS 8 News also got into the fire for airing close-up footage of a girl's thighs with the upper part covered by a mini-skirt. It was a part of a news report about women wearing mini-skirts that might cause rape. However, netizens criticised the footage as: *sexual assault, and a mini-skirt, what is the relationship, and SBS 8 o'clock news close-up footage of miniskirts, women are walking to the scene, it is only part of her thighs.* [20]

## Woman sues SBS for showing her breasts

A female whose breasts were exposed on SBS Wide eNews 840 (aired after SBS 8 News) is suing SBS and CJ E&M Media for compensation damages. According to the Seoul Central District Court on the 14th, they stated "A teacher working at a university in Seoul by the name of Kim claims she has suffered damage from a scene where her breasts were exposed, and has filed in a lawsuit against SBS and CJ Media for damage compensation." Kim stated, "SBS filmed me at a proximity where people can recognize my identity. I had to suffer because of their negligence in editing. tvN and its owners, CJ (E&M) Media, showed an unnecessary scene in a corner of the 'most watched news program' which stimulated sexual suggestions." She continued, "Because of this incident I suffered from acute laryngitis, and I demand 100 million won (\$86,000 USD) for medical expenses and damage compensation." On July 31, the scene of Kim-ssi's exposed breasts during summer vacation was shown. Viewers who saw this complained, to which SBS responded by immediately deleting the scene and stated, "There was a mistake with processing and editing broadcasts at KNN." [21]

## 2008 Summer Olympics opening ceremony broadcast controversy

On July 30, 2008, SBS gave out a programme to show a full-time rehearsal of the Beijing Olympic Opening Ceremony before it could be legally watched on August 8, 2008. In this programme, the rehearsal was clearly illustrated, including the show, the organization, and the torch. Some of the sections had been uploaded to YouTube, which therefore made them available to all over the world. Though YouTube later removed the videos, SBS was still blamed for copyright infringement, and some people and groups were even threatening to prosecute the company for harming the Broadcast Rights of the IOC.

## See also

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- EBS-TV
- KBS1
- KBS2
- MBC-TV
- JTBC-TV
- Channel A
- TV Chosun
- List of South Korean broadcasting networks
- TVN

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## External links

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- Official SBS Website (<http://www.sbs.co.kr/>) (in Korean)
- Official SBS Global Website (<http://global.sbs.co.kr/>)
- SBS International (<http://www.sbs-int.com/>) (SBS America)
- SBS's channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SBSNOW1>) on YouTube

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